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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9921
INFO RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS 4610
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RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 6379

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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PHUM KGHG PGOV PREL UNHRC MV IT

SUBJECT: ITALY ON UNHRC DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE RESOLUTION:

POSITION WILL BE DECIDED AT EU LEVEL

REF: STATE 19889

(SBU) SCICOUNS delivered reftel demarche on February 28 to the MFA Environment and Sustainable Development Director, Counselor Giovanna Piccarreta. Piccarreta said that the GOI sympathizes with the U.S. view that climate change and human rights are discreet issues that should be dealt with separately. However, she cautioned, this is an issue on which the European Union is establishing a common position, and thus she could not say what the GOI position would be, since Italy will defer to the EU consensus on it. She recommended that the USG approach the Slovenian EU Presidency on the issue, in addition to the usual coordination that takes place among the missions to the United Nations entities in Geneva.

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